From: Jeffrey Melnick
To: Simmons, Denise
Subject: HP
Date: Friday, April 20, 2018 9:22:49 AM

Dear Councillor Simmons,

I hope this finds you well and enjoying these first glimmers of spring. I've been a Cambridge resident since the late 1980s and a supporter of yours since you first ran for school committee. I remember with gratitude someone calling me from your campaign and when I asked her a question about a policy position she told me to hang on a minute and hollered for you to come get on the phone! Your patience and wisdom then impressed me, as it continues to do to this day.

I've been trying to track the question of the HP referendum that was supposed to come in front of the council this coming Monday and that seems to have been postponed. I can't find any statement by you on this matter and just wanted to urge you to take seriously the possibility of the adopting the HP boycott measure. This is a time tested political and economic strategy that reaches back at least as far as the Kosher Meat Strike of 1902 when Jewish women on the Lower East Side boycotted butchers who had raised their prices in collusion. As an American Jew I'm inspired by this early action and committed to taking any action in the present that might, even in a small way, represent an acknowledgement of the humanity and equal rights of Palestinians.

All best

Jeff Melnick

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